SCHEMALESS XML PAYLOAD GENERATION

Abstract of the Invention

An XML payload is generated from an XML list irrespective of a schema associated with the XML list. The parent/child relationship paths are collected from the field entries in the XML list. An XML payload node tree is created reflective of the parent/child relationship of data in the paths of the XML list. The XML payload can then be generated from the XML payload node tree and exported as needed to target software applications or web pages. The creation of the XML payload node tree begins by first grouping the paths indicative parent/child relationships according to length. Then for each record in the XML list, the shortest parent path is traversed starting with a primary parent or root node. The traversal determines if nodes for the shortest parent path have been created in the payload node tree. If nodes are missing along this shortest parent path in the node tree, nodes are created for the missing node along this path, and a pointer is set to identify the end node in the node tree, i.e. the end of a branch, from which longer paths for the record might extend. If there is a longer path in the XML list, the above node creating operation and pointer setting operation are repeated starting with the end node, extending the branch with new nodes to a new end node until the longest path has been processed and a branch in the XML payload node tree for the record has been completed. Then the above operations are repeated for the next record in the XML list until a complete node tree has been built for all the records in the XML list.